

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously presented) A method for analyzing effector cell and/or regulator cell cycling to determine when an agent should be administered to a patient suffering from a disease characterized by the production of regulator cells, the method comprising monitoring the patient, or samples obtained therefrom, for at least one of: a) effector cell numbers and/or activity, b) regulator cell numbers and/or activity, c) a molecule associated with the disease, and/or d) an immune system marker.

46. (Previously presented) A method of treating a disease characterized by the production of regulator cells, the method comprising,

i) analyzing effector cell and/or regulator cell cycling by monitoring a patient suffering from the disease for at least one of:

- a) number and/or activity of regulator cells,
- b) number and/or activity of effector cells,
- c) a molecule associated with the disease, and/or
- d) an immune system marker, and

ii) exposing the patient to an agent to treat the disease,
wherein the timing of administration of the agent is selected such that the activity of effector cells is not significantly reduced.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the disease characterized by the production of regulator cells is cancer or an infection.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the patient is infected with HIV, Hepatitis B virus or Hepatitis C virus.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the immune system marker reflects the number and/or activity of regulator cells, and/or the number and/or activity of effector cells.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the immune system marker is an acute phase inflammatory marker.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the agent is administered between when the levels of an acute phase inflammatory marker have peaked and before the marker begins to rise in the next cycle.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the agent is administered about when CD4+CD8- T cells are detected.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the agent is administered approximately when CD8+CD4- T cell numbers have peaked.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the molecule associated with the disease is an antigen produced by a cancer cell or an infectious agent.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the agent is administered approximately when levels of the molecule associated with the disease begin to decrease.

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the patient is monitored for an acute phase inflammatory marker, and a molecule associated with the disease.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the agent is administered between when the levels of the acute phase inflammatory marker have peaked and before the marker begins to rise in the next cycle, and when levels of the molecule associated with the

disease begin to decrease or would have been predicted to begin to decrease based upon previous analysis of the molecule.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the patient is monitored for a period of at least 21 days.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, the patient is monitored at least about every 3 days.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the agent inhibits the production of, limits the function of, and/or destroys, regulator cells.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the patient has not been exposed to a treatment for the disease for at least 21 days.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the patient is a human.

63. (Previously Presented) A method for analyzing effector cell and/or regulator cell cycling to diagnose a disease characterized by the production of regulator cells, the method comprising monitoring a patient, or samples obtained therefrom, for at least one of: a) effector cell numbers and/or activity, b) regulator cell numbers and/or activity, c) a molecule associated with the disease, and/or d) an immune system marker, wherein cycling of any one of a) to d) indicates the disease may be present.

64. (Previously presented) A method for analyzing effector cell and/or regulator cell cycling to determine when a vaccine should be administered to a patient suffering from a disease characterized by the production of regulator cells, the method comprising monitoring the patient, or samples obtained therefrom, for at least one of: a) effector cell numbers and/or activity, b) regulator cell numbers and/or activity, c) a molecule associated with the disease, and/or d) an immune system marker.

65. (Previously presented) A method of treating a disease characterized by the production of regulator cells, the method comprising:

i) analyzing effector cell and/or regulator cell cycling by monitoring a patient suffering from the disease for at least one of:

- a) number and/or activity of regulator cells,
- b) number and/or activity of effector cells,
- c) a molecule associated with the disease, and/or
- d) an immune system marker, and

ii) exposing the patient to an vaccine to treat the disease, wherein the timing of administration of the vaccine is selected such that the activity of effector cells is not significantly reduced.

66. (Previously presented) A kit when used for analyzing effector cell and/or regulator cell cycling to determine when an agent or vaccine should be administered to a patient suffering from a disease characterized by the production of regulator cells, the kit comprising at least one reagent for monitoring the patient, or samples obtained therefrom, for at least one of: a) effector cell numbers and/or activity, b) regulator cell numbers and/or activity, c) a molecule associated with the disease, and/or d) an immune system marker.

67-71. (Canceled)

72. (New) A method for analyzing effector cell and/or regulator cell cycling to determine when an agent should be administered to a patient suffering from a disease characterized by the production of regulator cells, the method comprising monitoring the patient, or samples obtained therefrom for an immune system marker.

73. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the disease characterized by the production of regulator cells is cancer.

74. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the agent inhibits the production of, limits the function of, and/or destroys, regulator cells.

75. (New) A method of treating cancer characterized by the production of regulator cells, the method comprising,

i) analyzing effector cell and/or regulator cell cycling by monitoring a patient suffering from cancer for an immune system marker, and

ii) exposing the patient to an agent to treat cancer,

wherein the timing of administration of the agent is selected such that the activity of effector cells is not significantly reduced.